

**To:** Wall, Dan[wall.dan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Coursen, Robin  
**Sent:** Wed 8/13/2014 3:03:18 PM  
**Subject:** RE: QA question

So how did this all end. Am I to do a new IA for both minisippers and Cotter together? It can be a new multi site IA with USGS. Let me know if you are ok with this and I will do it today.

Robin Rohn Coursen

U.S. EPA Region 8

Superfund Program

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**From:** Wall, Dan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2014 6:56 AM  
**To:** Schmittdiel, Paula; Coursen, Robin  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: QA question

All

I am revising the QAPP for some other reasons (adding some ARSG and trout unlimited requested analyses) and also the redeployment of the mini-sippers. The QAPP is valid for a year without updating.

**From:** Schmittdiel, Paula  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2014 5:26 PM  
**To:** Coursen, Robin

**Cc:** Wall, Dan  
**Subject:** RE: QA question

Robin - the existing QAPP was prepared by an EPA contractor and approved by Dan Wall, DAO. USGS is participating as part of an EPA sampling team. The samples are analyzed by the EPA lab in golden and validated. there is no significant changes to the existing QAPP (methods, detection limits, etc.). I don't know the answer to the last question - I think we're still good on the date but you should check with Dan Wall.

By the way, I am having trouble responding to email down here - just so you know.

Paula

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**From:** Coursen, Robin  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2014 2:21 PM  
**To:** Wall, Dan  
**Cc:** Schmittdiel, Paula  
**Subject:** FW: QA question



See below. Maaaaybee we are ok. Please weigh in before I call him.

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**From:** Brooks, Tom  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2014 12:34 PM  
**To:** Coursen, Robin  
**Cc:** Himmelbauer, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: QA question

Hi Robin –

Thanks for asking – I'm glad that we are starting to work together on these IA questions.

This is a good question – Some factors to consider:

- Is the existing QAPP approved by the RQAM or by someone else?
- Does the new project require a “significant” change to the existing QAPP (e.g. DQOs, methods, detection limits, data validation)? A change in sample locations is not a significant change.
- Does the period of approval of the existing QAPP cover the time frame of the new project?

Per the IA Manual and QA policy, a new IA can employ an existing, valid QAPP (see the QA terms and conditions in my IA procedure that refer to this). As you know there is some flexibility when identifying QA requirements (e.g. who will do what QA tasks) in IAs as long we still meet EPA QA requirements. I'll work with you to figure out how to make this happen to the extent that I can.

It looks like you might be on a short deadline for this – please let me know when it is convenient for you and/or Paula to meet. I'll need to see a copy of the existing QAPP and the draft SOW if available.

Tom

Tom Brooks

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It is better to stir up a question without deciding it, than to decide it without stirring it up.

~Joseph Joubert

There are many experts on how things have been done up to now. If you think something could use a little improvement, you are the expert.

~Robert Brault

**From:** Coursen, Robin

**Sent:** Friday, August 08, 2014 4:06 PM

**To:** Brooks, Tom

**Subject:** QA question

Paula Schmidtdiehl has a QAPP for mini sippers (sampling) in the Upper Animas River (early Superfund work). She wants to put her next batch of funding in a different IA than it was previously funded under but still with the same USGS field office. Is the existing QAPP adequate or does more need to be done in placing the money under a new IA? I want to be sure I can put her money in this new IA without needing a new QAPP as that will take too long to negotiate for what she needs.